

Message Text

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17

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /103 W

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R 041440Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8454

INFO USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L YAOUNDE 1604

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, RQ

SUBJECT: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: PUERTO RICO

REF: A. STATE 49330, B. 75 YAOUNDE 3452

1. PUERTO RICO ISSUE INCLUDED AS MAJOR ITEM TOUR D'HORIZON WITH FONMIN KEUTCHA MAY 3 PRIOR TO AMBASSADOR'S DEPARTURE FOR CONSULTATIONS. AMBASSADOR AND DCM REFERRED TO DISCUSSION ON PUERTO RICO SIX MONTHS AGO (REF B), REMINDED FONMIN OF US ANNOYANCE AT INCLUSION OF HOSTILE PUERTO RICAN ITEM IN LIMA NAC FINAL DOCUMENTS, AND ENCOURAGED GURC TO MAKE CLEAR THAT IT NOT IN FAVOR OF CUBAN-IMPOSED LIMA POSITION.

2. KEUTCHA FELL BACK TO USUAL LINE ABOUT NONALIGNED GROUP BEING A "MOVEMENT," NOT A STRUCTURED ORGANIZATION LIKE OAU OR UN. ALLUDED TO METHODS OF OPERATION AT NAC, "CONSENSUS" REPRESENTING OUTCOMES THAT COMPLETELY SATISFIED NO ONE. MENTIONED THAT WHILE HE WAS PRESIDENT OF POLITICAL COMMISSION AT LIMA, CUBAN WAS RAPPORTEUR (AND IMPLIED HOW MUCH DIFFICULTY THIS CREATED WITH CUBA ENJOYING SUPPORT OF NUMBER OF COUNTRIES). SAID GURC UNDERSTOOD PERFECTLY US VIEWPOINT, HAD NEVER ITSELF POSED PUERTO RICAN QUESTION, BUT IT CAME UP AT NONALIGNED AND UN MEETINGS AND "THERE IS SOLIDARITY IN CERTAIN ORGANIZATIONS."

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3. AT CONSLUSION OF MEETING AND AFTER OTHER SUBJECTS

DISCUSSED, WE RETURNED TO PUERTO RICO TO STRESS AS FINAL POINTS THAT USG AND GURC ALL TOO OFTEN HAD VOTED ON OPPOSITE SIDES OF VARIOUS ISSUES IN MULTILATERAL FORA IN RECENT YEARS, THAT WE AGREED WITH KEUTCHA'S COMMENT THAT FRIENDS WOULD NOT ALWAYS BE IN AGREEMENT AND DISAGREEMENT DID NOT MAKE TWO COUNTRIES ENEMIES, THAT WE CONSIDERED GURC A FRIEND, AND THAT WE WANTED GURC TO REALIZE THAT PUERTO RICO WAS NOT JUST "ANOTHER ONE" OF MANY ISSUES. PUERTO RICO WAS VITAL US INTEREST, LIMA LANGUAGE WAS INTERFERENCE IN USG INTERNAL AFFAIRS, AND PUERTO RICO WAS INDEED ONE OF THOSE FEW ISSUES IN MULTILATERAL FORA WHICH RELATED DIRECTLY TO BILATERAL RELATIONS.

4. COMMENT. MEETING ENDED VERY AMIABLY, WITH MUTUAL SATISFACTION EXPRESSED ABOUT ABILITY FRANKLY EXCHANGE VIEWS. THERE WAS NO QUESTION THAT KEUTCHA GOT THE MESSAGE AND HIS NOTETAKER RECORDED IT.
SPIRO

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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